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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, YO

SUBJECT: INITIAL YUGOSLAV REACTION TO SECRETARY'S LOS ADDRESS

REF : STATE 85109

1. EMBASSY CONSELOR, FOLLOWING GUIDANCE PROVIDED

REFTEL, MET APRIL 13 WITH MILAN KOMATINA, GOY

ASSISTANT FEDERAL SECRETARY FOR MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS,

TO DELIVER AND DISCUSS TEXT OF ADDRESS MADE BY SECRETARY

ON LAW OF THE SEA TO FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION MEETING

IN NEW YORK.

2. KOMATINA WAS WELL INFORMED ON AREAS OF AGREEMENT --

I.E., 12 MILES, 200 MILES, STRAITS PASSAGE ISSUES --

BUT SAID HE WAS NOT INFORMED IN DETAIL ABOUT THE

"DIFFICULT PROBLEM" OF SEABED MINERAL EXPLOITATION.

HE REMARKED THAT THE ASSUMED YUGOSLAV EXPERTS AT

LOS CONFERENCE WERE IN TOUCH WITH US SIDE.

3. KOMATINA WENT ON AT LENGTH ABOUT HOW HE HOPED TO

STUDY THIS SPEECH IN GREAT DETAIL, AS HE HAD DONE THE

SECRETARY'S ADDRESS TO THE UN 7TH SPECIAL SESSION

LAST YEAR. HE NOTED THAT THE USG'S 7TH SESSION

INITIATIVES WERE IN THE MAIN CONSTRUCTIVE FROM THE

YUGOSLAV POINT OF VIEW, AND HOPED ON BASIS OF WHAT HAD

BEEN JUST PRESENTED TO HIM BY CONSELOR TO FIND THAT

LOS SPEECH WAS IN SAME CATEGORY. BUT, HE ADDED, THE

CONFERENCE MUST FIND ITS WAY TO A CONSENSUS AND THAT

IT WOULD NOT BE USEFUL TO WORK UNDER THE "PRESSURE

OF ULTIMATUMS." HE ALSO SAID LOS HAD TO BE

VIEWED IN CIEC AND UNCTAD CONTEXT.

4. AT THIS POINT CONSELOR MENTIONED THAT BOTH

TANJUG AND BORBA HAD CONCENTRATED ON SECRETARY'S

STATEMENTS THAT IS SOLUTION TO LOS ISSUES NOT

REACHED THIS YEAR ALL NATION WOULD LOSE

UNPARALLELED OPPORTUNITY, REST OF SECRETARY'S SPEECH

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Yugoslavia

Views on K speech

120

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LARGELY IGNORED, AND PART THAT WAS COVERED DISTORTED BY PRESS INTO AN ULTIMATUM. KOMATINA, WHILE HE MAINTAINED STEADFAST POSTURE THAT THE NON-ALIGNED IN GENERAL WOULD NOT BUCKLE BEFORE ANY PRESSURE FROM ANY QUARTER, DID GO ON THE DEFENSIVE WITH RESPECT TO YUGOSLAV MEDIA TREATMENT OF LOS SPEECH, SAYING THAT IT WAS SIMILAR TO SITUATION AT 7TH SPECIAL SESSION WHEN MINIC HAD BEEN PUT IN AWKWARD POSITION OF REFERRING PUBLICLY TO SECRETARY'S SPEECH IN A POSITIVE MANNER WHILE AT THE SAME TIME YUGOSLAV PRESS WAS LAMBASTING IT. SILBERMAN

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